

**Decision Record
for
Windy Creek and Poorman Creek Road Construction
EA #OR118-02-025**

Decision

It is my decision to implement Alternative 1 proposed in the Windy Creek and Poorman Creek Road Construction environmental assessment (EA # OR118-02-025). The approved action consists of issuing two short term right-of-way permits to Superior Lumber Co. to construct and utilize a road approximately 840 feet long in Windy Creek and another road approximately 300 feet long in Poorman Creek. Both of these roads will be constructed on BLM managed land and are within Douglas County, Oregon. The road location in Windy Creek is T.32 S., R.6 W., Section 24. The location in Poorman Creek is T.33 S., R.7 W., Section 23.

The running surfaces of the roads will be 14' wide with an additional 8' feet given to each side for clearing vegetation. The total width of the road corridors will be 30' wide with the exception of a road segment in Windy Creek road for resource protection, as noted in the EA. The road in Windy Creek will follow an existing ridge top fire trail and would not require removing commercial size conifer trees. The road in Poorman Creek will require the removal of 11 commercial size conifers on the edge of an existing young plantation.

Approximately 1 million board feet (MMBF) would be hauled over the Windy Creek road and approximately 2 MMBF over the Poorman Creek road during the summer of 2002.

This action will not result in significant impacts on the human environment and a Supplemental Environmental impact Statement is not required. This decision is consistent with the Record of Decision for *Amendments to Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management Planning Documents Within the Range of the Northern Spotted Owl* (1994), the *Medford Resource Record of Decision and Resource Management Plan* (1995), as amended, and the Record of Decision for *Amendments to the Survey and Manage, Protection Buffer, and other Mitigation Measures Standards and Guidelines* (2001).

The public was notified of the Windy Creek and Poorman Creek Road Construction environmental assessment through the Grants Pass Courier, Umpqua Free Press, BLM Medford District web site, and mailings to the interested public.

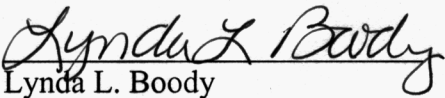
Rationale

This action meets the purpose and need of the proposal identified in the EA: to allow Superior Lumber Co. access to their land in the most efficient and environmentally sound manner. This is consistent with Title 43 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) part 2812.0-6(a) which states that "The intermingled character of the O. and C. lands presents peculiar problems of management

which require for their solution the cooperation between the Federal Government and the owners of the intermingled lands, particularly with respect to timber roads.”

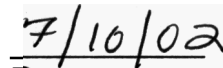
The No-Action Alternative was not selected because it did not meet the identified purpose and need of providing Superior Lumber Co. access in the most efficient and environmentally sound manner.

The Decision Record will appear in the Grants Pass Courier, Umpqua Free Press and BLM Medford District web site. This decision may be appealed to the Interior Board of Land Appeals, Office of the Secretary, in accordance with the regulations contained in 43 CFR Subpart 2804. The notice of appeal must be filed in the Glendale Field office, Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Department of the Interior, 3040 Biddle Road, Medford, OR, 97504 within 30 days from publication of this decision in the newspaper.



Lynda L. Boody

Field Manager, Glendale Resource Area
Medford District, Bureau of Land Management


Date

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT (FONSI)
for
Windy Creek and Poorman Creek Road Construction
EA #OR118-02-025

The Windy Creek and Poorman Creek Road Construction environmental assessment can be obtained at the Medford District Office or on the Medford BLM web site:
<http://www.or.blm.gov/Medford/>.

The specific treatments are described in Alternative 1 of the Windy Creek and Poorman Creek Road Construction environmental EA and attached Decision Record. The action includes issuing two short term right-of-way permits to Superior Lumber Co. for the purposes of constructing and utilizing a road approximately 840 feet long in Windy Creek and another road approximately 300 feet long in Poorman Creek. Both of these roads will be constructed on BLM managed land.

The following critical elements identified in the BLM Handbook (BLM Handbook, H-1709-1) will not be adversely affected by this project and have been analyzed in the EA: air quality, areas of critical environmental concern, historical or cultural resources, prime or unique farmlands, floodplains, Native American religious sites, invasive species, energy, threatened or endangered species, known hazardous waste areas, water quality, wetlands, wild and scenic rivers, wilderness and environmental justice.

Oregon Coast coho would not be affected because both roads will be on ridges and several hundred yards from any stream channel. Activities would have less than an adverse effect on essential fish habitat for Oregon Coast coho salmon and chinook salmon. The project is outside the range of the listed endangered *Fritillaria gentneri* plant species and will not adversely affect the northern spotted owl.

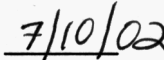
There are no interdependent and interrelated effects to threatened and endangered species from the federal action of constructing roads to harvesting that would occur on Superior Lumber Co. lands (Endangered Species Act and BLM 6840.21 regulations). The actions on Superior Lumber Co. lands would occur regardless of whether BLM would issue them right-of-way permits. Superior Lumber Co. has reasonable alternate access to their lands.

FONSI DETERMINATION

Based on the effects discussed in the Windy Creek and Poorman Creek Road Construction EA, I have determined that Alternative 1, which I have selected, will not have significant effects on the human environment. Effects will not be beyond those already fully described in the Final Medford District Proposed Resource Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement. For this reason, no environmental impact statement needs to be prepared.


Lynda L. Boody

Field Manager, Glendale Resource Area
Medford District, Bureau of Land Management


Date